G.O. No.

Dated 20-1-1949

[Despatch Abstract.]

Irrigation - Acceptance of tenders exceeding estimate rates Delegation of powers to Collectors and the Board of Revenue Orders passed.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT
Sub:

IRRIGATION - Minor - (Chittoor) - Minor Irrigation works Repairs - Increase in basic rates - Recommended.

Ref: No. G. 8203/47-1,
Station: Madras dated 16th September 194

From

C. A. Ramakrishnan Esq., I.C.S.,
Joint Secretary, Board of Revenue.

V.N. Kudva Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Commissioner of Land Revenue, Excise and Prohibition

Read the following:

I. From the Collector of Chittoor ~~of~~ Ref. A2. 14287/47, dated 29.11.47.
Ref: Your D.O.No. G. 295/47. dated 11.9.1947

With reference to Board's District Officer mentioned above, I submit below the several factors which have contributed to the slow progress in the execution of works pertaining to flood damaged sources of December, 1946:--

1. The professional contractors have no attraction for works in the Revenue Department.

2. The Revised Public Works Department Schedule of rates is considered unattractive.

3. The It is extremely difficult to procure labour;

4. Agricultural and other labourers are resorting to more profitable occupations like manufacturing of charcoal etc.

5. Earthwork coolies (Voddars) are entertained at unreasonably high wages by ryots for subsidy wells etc;

6. The Ayacutdars are unwilling to take up works due to uncertainty of commanding the necessary labour for steady and prompt execution of works.

7. The peculiarity of the presence of water in some of the sources even in dry months this year due to ring-bunding of the breaches by ryots to retain water.

2. Further many of the Minor Irrigation Sources are in remote places and hilly tracts which are not easily accessible unlike road and building works; transport of materials to these places has become a problem and increase the cost of execution in addition to the delay involved. Consequently some of the few influential Professional contractors and ayacutdars who can command labour are not coming forward to take up the works.

3. In view of these difficulties the execution of works cannot be expedited, unless special rates are offered

to attract contractors and to counteract the increased cost in execution in respect of works selected in inaccesable places or localities when there is dearth for labour. To this end, it will be necessary that the Collector should have power to accept tenders upto 25% over the estimate amount and also discretion to allow further increase upto 40% subject to the approval of the Board of Revenue in very special cases. I would therefore request that the Government may be addressed in the matter for early orders.

II. Chief Engineer (Irrigation)'s U.O. No. 342/48, NEP dated 31.7.1948.

The suggestions of the Collector of Chittoor are for the grant of enhanced powers to the Collectors to (a) accept tenders upto 25% in excess of the sanctioned estimate, in ordinary cases, and (b) accept tenders upto 40% in excess of the estimates in extraordinary cases with the prior approval of the Board.

2. Suggestion (a) is acceptable and the Collectors may, with the sanction of the Government, be permitted to accept tenders, the rates of which exceed the estimate rates by not more than twenty-five percent, in respect of works, the cost of which does not exceed their powers of sanction viz., Rs. 4,500/-

3. As regards suggestion (b), I consid it desirable that the powers of accepting tenders in excess of sanctioned estimates up to 40% of the estimate amount are vested with the Board.

4. Incidentally, it is pointed out that there is nothing to prevent the Collector from following the Public Works Department current schedule of rates, when he finds his rates are unworkable.

REFERENCE

Submitted to Government.

2. The Board agrees with the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) and requests that the Government may be pleased to empower (1) Collectors to accept tenders for Minor Irrigation works upto 25% over the sanctioned estimates in cases where they are competent to sanction the original estimates and (2) the Board to accept tenders upto 40% over the sanctioned estimates.

(Sd) x x x
for Joint Secretary.

To the Secretary to Government,
- Revenue Department.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
ABSTRACT.

IRRIGATION - Acceptance of tenders exceeding estimate rates - Delegation of powers to Collectors and the Board of Revenue - Orders passed.

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